

Table 22. Infant mortality rates according to birthweight: United States, selected years 1983–2000

[Data are based on linked birth and death certificates for infants]

<i>Birthweight</i>	1983 ¹	1985 ¹	1990 ¹	1991 ¹	1995 ²	1996 ²	1997 ²	1998 ²	1999 ²	2000 ²
Infant deaths per 1,000 live births ³										
All birthweights	10.9	10.4	8.9	8.6	7.6	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.0	6.9
Less than 2,500 grams	95.9	93.9	78.1	74.3	65.3	63.6	62.4	62.3	61.3	60.2
Less than 1,500 grams	400.6	387.7	317.6	305.4	270.7	261.5	255.0	252.4	249.5	246.9
Less than 500 grams	890.3	895.9	898.2	889.9	904.9	890.1	885.2	869.6	857.7	847.9
500–999 grams	584.2	559.2	440.1	422.6	351.0	336.9	324.4	319.4	318.6	313.8
1,000–1,499 grams	162.3	145.4	97.9	91.3	69.6	64.7	61.8	60.6	59.2	60.9
1,500–1,999 grams	58.4	54.0	43.8	40.4	33.5	30.6	30.6	29.0	29.1	28.7
2,000–2,499 grams	22.5	20.9	17.8	17.0	13.7	13.6	12.5	12.7	12.0	11.9
2,500 grams or more	4.7	4.3	3.7	3.6	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.5
2,500–2,999 grams	8.8	7.9	6.7	6.7	5.5	5.1	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.6
3,000–3,499 grams	4.4	4.3	3.7	3.5	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.4
3,500–3,999 grams	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7
4,000 grams or more	3.3	3.2	2.4	2.4	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.6
4,000–4,499 grams	2.9	2.9	2.2	2.2	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5
4,500–4,999 grams	3.9	3.8	2.5	3.0	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.1
5,000 grams or more ⁴	14.4	14.7	9.8	8.2	8.5	*6.2	*4.2	*4.3	*7.9	*6.1

* Rates preceded by an asterisk are based on fewer than 50 events.

¹Rates based on unweighted birth cohort data.²Rates based on a period file using weighted data; not stated birthweight imputed when period of gestation is known and proportionately distributed when period of gestation is unknown (see Appendix I, National Vital Statistics System, Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set).³For calculation of birthweight-specific infant mortality rates, unknown birthweight has been distributed in proportion to known birthweight separately for live births (denominator) and infant deaths (numerator).⁴In 1989 a birthweight-gestational age consistency check instituted for the natality file resulted in a decrease in the number of deaths to infants coded with birthweights of 5,000 grams or more and a discontinuity in the mortality trend for infants weighing 5,000 grams or more at birth. Starting with 1989 the rates are believed to be more accurate.

NOTES: National linked files do not exist for 1992–94. Data for additional years are available (see Appendix III).

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, National Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set.